

## Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 TEL AV 03579 081559 Z

52

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 RSR-01 IO-12 EUR-25 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-09 H-02 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01

PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-12 OMB-01 /118 W  
----- 005524

R 081453 Z MAY 73

FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8342

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

USINT CAIRO

AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT BY POUCH

UNCLAS TEL AVIV 3579

E O 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, PBOR, IS, XF

SUBJECT: PRIME MINISTER INTERVIEW FOR INDEPENDENCE DAY

1. IN INTERVIEW WITH ISRAELI JOURNALISTS ON OCCASION OF ISRAEL' S  
25 TH INDEPENDENCE DAY WHICH WAS TELECAST HERE ON MAY 6 ( DISTINCT  
FROM HER CONCURRENT " MEET THE PRESS" INTERVIEW), PRIMIN EX-  
PRESSED VIEWS ON FUTURE BORDERS, SADAT' S WAR INTENTIONS,  
PALESTINIANS, AND PROSPECTS FOR PEACE. SHE ALSO REVEALED THAT  
SHE HAD PUT OUT " FEELERS" TO SADAT FOR NEGOTIATIONS TO WHICH SHE  
HAD RECEIVED NO REPLY. SUMMARY FOLLOWS OF GOVT PRESS OFFICE' S  
MAY 7 RELEASE OF VERBATIM EXCERPTS FROM INTERVIEW.

2. IN DEALING WITH QUESTION OF BORDER WITH EGYPT, MRS MEIR  
SAID, "... THEIR ( THE EGYPTIANS') ATTITUDE WOULD BE DIFFERENT,  
I. E. IF THEY WERE TO ACCEPT OUR EXISTENCE HERE, THEN THE BORDER  
ISSUE WOULD NO LONGER BE SO IMPORTANT. WHY DO WE WANT SECURE  
BORDERS? IN THE FIRST PLACE, TO DETER ANY ARAB LEADER WHO MIGHT  
WANT TO ATTACK AGAIN. SECONDLY, SO THAT IF HE DOES ATTACK, WE  
SHALL BE ABLE TO DEFEND OURSELVES WITH AS FEW CASUALTIES AS  
POSSIBLE."

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 TEL AV 03579 081559 Z

3. TURNING TO FUTURE OF WEST BANK, MRS MEIR SAID: " I AM NOT FOR INTEGRITY OF THE LAND ( OF ISRAEL), NEITHER DO I BELITTLE HISTORIC RIGHTS. I AM AGAINST THE 1967 BORDER, AND I HOLD THAT THERE MUST BE NOT MINOR ADJUSTMENTS IN THE BORDERS BUT MAJOR ADJUSTMENTS-- NOT EVERYWHERE THE SAME THING. I WANT SECURE BORDERS, AS SECURE AS POSSIBLE, AND ( AT THE SAME TIME) I WANT AS FAR AS POSSIBLE TO RETAIN THE JEWISH CHARACTER THROUGH A LARGE JEWISH POPULATION WHICH WILL NEVER FACE ANY DANGER."

4. INTERVIEWER ASKED MRS MEIR HOW ISRAEL COULD BREAK OUT OF THE VICIOUS CIRCLE IN WHICH, SINCE ISRAEL CANNOT BE SURE OF THE ARABS' ABILITY AND DESIRE TO RECOGNIZE ISRAEL, " ISRAEL CANNOT GIVE IN." MRS MEIR REPLIED THAT THERE IS NOTHING MORE ISRAEL CAN DO TO BREAK OUT OF CIRCLE BUT ARABS MAY EVENTUALLY BREAK CIRCLE. " WE CAN HOPE. I HOPE, AND I HOPE IT IS NO VAIN HOPE. THE DAY WILL COME WHEN THEY WILL ACCEPT, AND AFTER ACCEPTANCE THEY MAY BE PREPARED TO ACCORD US WHOLE- HEARTED RECOGNITION. BUT THE REALITY NOW IS DIFFERENT. THE TRUTH IS THAT WHAT SADAT WANTS IS 1967, AFTERWARDS THE 1947 BORDER, AND THEREAFTER--- OUT."

5. ON QUESTION OF EGYPTIAN INTENTIONS, MRS MEIR STATED: " IF ONE IS TO JUDGE BY LOGIC, BY THE FACTS, THEN IT IS OBVIOUS THAT HE SHOULD NOT GO TO WAR, ( SINCE) HE CAN GAIN NOTHING BY WAR. HE KNOWS THIS, I HAVE NO DOUBT THAT HE KNOWS IT... AT THE SAME TIME, I BELIEVE IT WOULD BE A TRAGEDY IF WE WERE... TO ASCRIBE TO SADAT OUR PROCESS OF THOUGHT, OUR LOGIC, AND THE CONCLUSIONS WE REACH THEREBY... HE ACTS ACCORDING TO HIS OWN LOGIC, AND THE MOST SHOCKING THING IS THAT THE LEADER OF A NATION OF 35 MILLION SHOULD SAY: ' EVEN IF IT SHOULD MEAN SACRIFICES, I AM PREPARED TO SACRIFICE ONE, TWO, THREE MILLION'... TO THE EXTENT THAT SADAT SHOULD SENSE THAT WE TAKE HIM AT HIS WORD, AND THAT WE BELIEVE THAT HE WILL BE COMMITTING A FATAL ERROR, BUT ALL THE SAME WE BELIEVE THAT HE MAY ACT, AND WE ARE READY--- THIS MAY ALSO BE A DETERRENT.

6. IN DISJOINTED REMARKS, MRS MEIR REVEALED THAT SHE HAD PUT OUT SECRET " FEELERS" DURING THE PAST YEAR TO SADAT TO CONDUCT NEGOTIATIONS. THESE FEELERS WERE THROUGH IMPORTANT VISITORS TO ISRAEL AND EGYPT, ONE OF WHOM " WAS SURE THAT WITHIN A WEEK OR TWO HE WOULD HAVE A REPLY FOR ME-- I HAVE BEEN WAITING ALREADY FOR MANY WEEKS. NO REPLY HAS ARRIVED." SHE REMARKED AT ONE

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 TEL AV 03579 081559 Z

POINT THAT THE MIDDLEMEN SHE HAD USED WERE "" PERSONS WHO ARE NOT JUST GENERALLY IMPORTANT AND IMPORTANT IN MY OWN EYES: THEY HAD PRINCIPALLY TO BE IMPORTANT IN SADAT' S EYS."

7. WHEN ASKED IF SHE WOULD ALSO NEGOTIATE WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF THE PALESTINIANS, MRS MEIR REPLIED: " I AM NOT

AWARE OF ANY ELECTED PALESTINIAN REPRESENTATION AUTHORIZED TO  
SPEAK ON BEHALF OF THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE. AND WHEN THERE WILL  
BE-- IF IT IS ARAFAT AND HABASH, THEN WITH THEM I HAVE NOTHING  
TO NEGOTIATE. BUT IF THE ARABS WANT TO COME AND TALK-- BY  
ALL MEANS, BUT TO TALK OF WHAT? ABOUT TERRITORIAL ISSUES? OF  
OUR MOVING TO 1967" LINES?

8. TURNING TO THE PROSPECTS OF PEACE, MRS MEIR SAID: " I HOPE  
THAT LONG BEFORE 25 YEARS HAVE ELAPSED WE SHALL LIVE IN PEACE;  
I SAY PEACE, BUT SHALL SETTLE FOR SIGNED PEACE TREATIES--- ALTHOUGH  
THAT IS NOT QUITE PEACE. PEACE, WHEN RELATIONS BETWEEN US AND  
EGYPT AND BETWEEN US AND SYRIA WILL BE THE SAME AS RELATIONS  
BETWEEN GERMANY AND FRANCE. WHY GERMANY AND FRANCE? THERE,  
TOO, THERE WERE TWO WARS DURING THIS GENERATION. THEN IT WILL  
BE PEACE... AND I HOPE THERE WILL BE PEACE."  
ZURHELLEN

UNCLASSIFIED  
NMAFVVZCZ

\*\*\* Current Handling Restrictions \*\*\* n/a

\*\*\* Current Classification \*\*\* UNCLASSIFIED

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PFOR  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 08 MAY 1973  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** n/a  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1973TELAV03579  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** n/a  
**Errors:** n/a  
**Film Number:** n/a  
**From:** TEL AVIV  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1973/newtext/t19730539/aaaaijwc.tel  
**Line Count:** 133  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE  
**Office:** ACTION NEA  
**Original Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 3  
**Previous Channel Indicators:**  
**Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** martinjw  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 26 OCT 2001  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <26-Oct-2001 by kuehnbc0>; APPROVED <07 FEB 2002 by martinjw>  
**Review Markings:**

Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** <DBA CORRECTED> mcm 980105  
**Subject:** PRIME MINISTER INTERVIEW FOR INDEPENDENCE DAY  
**TAGS:** PFOR, IS, XF, PBOR  
**To:** AMMAN  
BEIRUT  
CAIRO  
JERUSALEM  
NEA  
SECSTATE WASHDC  
**Type:** TE

**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005